

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGUI 01435 200816Z

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 IO-10 SAM-01 /047 W

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R 200725Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5335

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CT, CZ

SUBJECT: CAR/CZECHOSLOVAKIA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

1. THE FIRST CZECHOSLOVAKIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE CAR, DR. JAROMIR VRLA, PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO CAR PRESIDENT BOKASSA DECEMBER 17. THE CSR IS THE FIFTH EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY WITH WHICH THE CAR HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HOWEVER, IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT AMBASSADOR VRLA, WHO IS CONCURRENTLY AMBASSADOR TO NIGERIA, WILL CONTINUE TO RESIDE AT LAGOS AND THAT THE CSR HAS NO PLANS TO OPEN AN EMBASSY HERE AT PRESENT.

2. THERE HAD BEEN NO PRIOR PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT HERE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF CAR/CZECH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HOWEVER, WE DO KNOW THAT JUSTICE AND LABOR MINISTER N'GAI-VOUETO WAS IN PARIS DECEMBER 7 EN ROUTE TO PRAGUE AND PRESUMABLY FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGE WERE MADE AT THAT TIME.

3. IN BRIEF REMARKS AT CREDENTIALS CEREMONY NEW CZECH AMBASSADOR HIGHLIGHTED CSR'S OPPOSITION TO ANY FORM OF COLONIALISM AND RACISM AND ITS DESIRE TO EXPAND CSR TIES WITH CAR IN ALL DOMAINS.

4. BOKASSA RESPONDED BY STRESSING CAR'S QUOTE OPEN POLICY UNQUOTE AS REGARDS RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS OF VARYING

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PAGE 02 BANGUI 01435 200816Z

POLITICAL PERSUASIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE THAT

CSR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE COULD HAVE IN RELATIONS WITH THE CAR AND NOTED THAT THE CSR ALREADY HAD IN MIND DEVELOPMENT AID IN THE AREAS OF IRON ORE EXPLOITATION AND AGRICULTURE. HE DID NOT ELABORATE. (FYI ACCORDING TO A RECENT UNDP STUDY, HOWEVER, EXPLOITATION OF THE CAR'S IRON RESOURCES IS NOT CONSIDERED UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE END FYI).

5. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME ANY BIO INFORMATION ADDRESSEES MIGHT HAVE ON NEW CZECH AMBASSADOR.
DALE

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